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men who won the civil war, Lincoln and Grant, were sprung from her soil. All during the weary years of conflict the state furnished much more than its quota of troops, and there was never any need of resorting to conscription. The familiar story is retold in the present volume with justifiable pride. It is worth chronicling, however, that while the state lost 8,908 men in killed and wounded, more than twice that number (19,934) died from the ravages of disease.

The author remarks in his Preface that this particular period of Illinois history is complicated by the place taken by Illinois leaders on the roll of national heroes. And the historian finds himself torn between the demands of the common people for an interpretation of their democratic development against great odds, and the influence of the statesmen on the hustings, in the national legislature and the presidential chair, as well as that of the successful military commander. On the whole he has succeeded in balancing all the factors and in delineating the many-sided evolution of a great state with a completeness of detail that does not preclude a full grasp of the whole vivid moving panorama.

J. B. CULEMANS, Ph.D.

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**Studies in the Old South by the Present Day Students of a Virginia College.** A Collection of Essays to which have been Awarded during the Past Ten Years the Dr. George W. Bagby Prize of Hampden-Sidney College for the Best Essay written by an Undergraduate upon Ante-Bellum Conditions in the South. 1916. Pp. 116.

A valuable addition to extant literature on conditions in the southland anterior to and during the American Civil War period and, from a southern standpoint, explaining the attitude of the seceding states, is found in the above publication.

The work appears as a striking illustration of the, perhaps, overly quoted "multum in parvo." The essays are ably treated by ten writers and turn mainly on questions of paramount interest to every student of the American pre-Civil and Civil War periods. The introduction consists of a one-page preface by George Gordon Battle. The titles of subjects treated, with authors, are as follows: The Influence of the Extensive Growth of Tobacco in Virginia in the Seventeenth Century, by W. W. Grover, 1906;

Slavery and its Influence in the Old South, by D. A. Haller, 1908; States' Rights, by L. H. Lancaster, 1909; Journalism and Authorship in the Ante-Bellum South, by Joseph M. Crockett, 1911; The Sovereignty of the State and Secession, by James M. Cecil, 1910; State Rights, by Charles Edwin Clarke, 1912; Causes of the Civil War, by John Gavack, Jr., 1913; The Secession of Virginia, by Ernest Trice Thompson, 1914; Half a Man; The Free Negro in Virginia, 1619-1865, by R. E. Warwick, 1915; Ante-Bellum Fun in Old Virginia, by Geo. H. Gilmer, Jr., 1916.

The trend of general treatment of the above subjects, so intimately bearing on the war between the states, is mainly apologetic in character, the writers being imbued with the idea of explaining many misunderstood questions as to the motives and causes of the South's stand and action in the great fratricidal struggle. The fact that the various articles are penned by students of a southern educational institution of recognized high rank and concern matters with which the writers, from their very environment, must necessarily be familiar, give to the conclusions drawn a decided air of truth and accuracy. The warmth and earnestness of the apologists win our attention and enlist our sympathies.

In what is, perhaps, the most important of all the essays treated, the "Causes of the Civil War," the writer shows conclusively that the popular notion of the "for slavery" and "against slavery" positions respectively of the South and of the North as causative factors of the mighty conflict is erroneous. The same conclusion is brought out in the other also important essays on "States' Rights," "The Sovereignty of the State and Secession," "Slavery and its Influence in the Old South," and "The Secession of Virginia."

The writers of the above articles, as do all other southern authors who touch on the subject-matters involved, give as the primary cause of the Civil War the question of "States' Rights," the South holding each state to be supreme and, therefore, not subservient to the national government, and this from the belief that, in the words of Madison, the constitution is a "compact between the states in their highest capacity."

The proximate cause of the war, however, is given as to whether slavery was to be allowed in new States. The southerners naturally took the affirmative side, in order to have additional

markets for their surplus slaves, the monetary value of which represented, in the decade ending in 1860, a value of three and one-half billions of the total five billions of dollars of estimated southern properties. The North held slavery to be against the dictates of civilization and humanity and, consequently, considered its extension into new territories naught other than crime. The occasions of the war are shown to have been remotely John Brown's raid at Harper's Ferry and proximately Lincoln's election and subsequent call for troops. In the quoted words of Jefferson Davis: "No alternative remained except to seek the security out of the union which they (the seceding states) had vainly tried to obtain within it."

Virginia's reluctant part in secession is pathetically shown. Her hand was forced. Neutral she could not remain. It was a question as to her siding with the North or her sister States, the South. Contrary to the popular belief, slavery to her was, in itself, distasteful, to which institution she had, more than once, shown even strong opposition. As a matter of fact, out of a population of 1,047,299 Virginians, only 52,128 were slave-owners. Her most notable military leaders, such as Robert E. Lee, Stonewall Jackson, Joseph E. Johnston, A. P. Hill and J. E. B. Stuart, were not holders of slaves. The influence, too, of the growth of tobacco in bringing the blacks into Virginia for its cultivation is shown to be intimately connected with the question of slavery.

The earnestness of the writers, whilst adding zest to the general narrative, is productive at times of a few statements which appear to be somewhat overdrawn, as, for instance, where under the question, "Slavery and its Influence in the Old South," mention is made that the native African could not be degraded but was rather elevated by slavery in the States, a conclusion, whilst doubtless true in many cases, the general application of which may be seriously questioned.

We may conclude with the statement that the reader, in search of historic truth concerning the attitude of the South in the Civil War, will scarcely find in any other small work more tending to explain better and clarify the difficult and, in many cases, disputed questions than is found in the able and interesting essays of the little volume. The writers have succeeded admirably in their

principal purpose of giving to the public concisely and graphically a pen picture of southern conditions and motives of action during and preceding the momentous Civil War period. It is to be hoped that there may be forthcoming other larger works embracing the same or similar subject-matter and of the same standard of thought and diction as is manifested in the attractive publication, "Studies in the Old South."

F. JOSEPH MAGRI, M.A., D.D.